

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SUMTER LAW ENFORCEMENT
PRAYER BREAKFAST

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, as the nation pauses to celebrate 25 years of federal recognition of National Police Week, I rise to pay tribute to law enforcement officers in South Carolina and across the country who serve and protect our families and communities every day.

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to speak at a prayer breakfast in my hometown of Sumter, South Carolina. The prayer breakfast was hosted by the Sumter County Sheriff's Department and the City of Sumter Police Department. I am grateful Sheriff Anthony Dennis honored me with his invitation to speak at the prayer breakfast.

The theme for the event was, "Badge of Honor," which is fitting because when our brave men and women serve our communities day in and day out, they bring great personal honor to their duties. Police work is often dangerous and too frequently thankless, so I think it's important for those of us in elected office to pause and say sincerely, thank you.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of National Police Week, I want to say thank you to the law enforcement officers and their families in South Carolina and throughout this great land.

REAFFIRMATION OF THE TAIWAN
RELATIONS ACT AND THE SIX
ASSURANCES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 16, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 88 reaffirming the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) and the six assurances as cornerstones of the United States-Taiwan relations.

Since its enactment, the TRA has played an indispensable role in shaping U.S.-Taiwan relations, resulting in a mutually-beneficial relationship that encourages strong security, cultural, and economic ties.

The TRA is unique because it is the only law to govern nearly every aspect of U.S. relations within a foreign government in the absence of diplomatic relations.

Taiwan's story is unique in that it is an example to the world of the potential of a country.

Indeed, Taiwan and the United States share many values including:

1. a commitment to democracy;
2. a commitment to human rights and the rule of law; and
3. a commitment to economic prosperity.

Maintaining and deepening our strong relations with Taiwan is an important part of U.S. engagement in Asia, a region of great and growing importance to the United States.

This includes a vital security and strategic interest within the Taiwan Strait, where United States troops are stationed within the Taiwan Strait region.

Further, Taiwan has grown to become America's ninth-largest overall trading partner and our seventh-largest destination for agricultural exports.

Indeed, I am particularly proud that as a Member of the Congressional Caucus on Taiwan, my colleagues and I can serve an important role in strengthening bilateral relations by engaging our counterparts in Taiwan.

Not too long ago, we commemorated the 37th anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act.

I encourage my colleagues to continue to join me in support of and in promotion of our bilateral relations with Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the speech delivered by Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou on March 30, 2016, in which he emphasized the strong and abiding friendship between Taiwan and the United States, which was integral to Taiwan's transformation into the free, prosperous, and just society it is today.

President Ma also spoke of Taiwan's future through the lens of three key issues:

1. cross-strait relations;
2. energy; and
3. economic development.

President Ma also mentioned that through the effort to seek peace, Taiwan has become a peacemaker and provider of humanitarian aid.

I also want to congratulate Taiwan on the January 16, 2016 election of the first female President to be elected—Dr. Tsai Ing-wen.

Mr. Speaker, the inauguration of President Dr. Tsai Ing-wen is the third peaceful transition of power in Taiwan's democratic history.

The United States congratulates the people and government of Taiwan on the election of President Tsai Ing-wen and Taiwan's enduring and strong commitment to nurturing democracy, human rights and the rule-of-law.

This is why I support and urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 88.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

SPEECH OF

HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chair, I ask that the following exchange of letters be submitted on H.R. 4909:

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 2, 2016.

Hon. WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, House
of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. THORNBERRY: I write to confirm our mutual understanding regarding H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017. This legislation contains subject matter within the jurisdiction of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. However, in order to expedite floor consideration of this important legislation, the committee waives consideration of the bill.

The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs takes this action only with the understanding that the committee's jurisdictional interests over this and similar legislation are in no way diminished or altered.

The committee also reserves the right to seek appointment to any House-Senate conference on this legislation and requests your support if such a request is made. Finally, I would appreciate your including this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 4909 on the House Floor. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

JEFF MILLER,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 3, 2016.

Hon. JEFF MILLER,
Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017. I agree that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to request a referral in the interest of expediting consideration of the bill. I agree that by foregoing a sequential referral, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs is not waiving its jurisdiction. Further, this exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 29, 2016.

Hon. WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write to confirm our mutual understanding regarding H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, which contains substantial matter that falls within the Rule X legislative jurisdiction of the Foreign Affairs Committee. I appreciate the cooperation that allowed us to work out mutually agreeable text on numerous matters prior to your markup.

Based on that cooperation and our associated understandings, the Foreign Affairs

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Committee will not seek a sequential referral or object to floor consideration of the bill text approved at your Committee markup. This decision in no way diminishes or alters the jurisdictional interests of the Foreign Affairs Committee in this bill, any subsequent amendments, or similar legislation. I request your support for the appointment of House Foreign Affairs conferees during any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

Finally, I respectfully request that you include this letter and your response in your committee report on the bill and in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 4909 on the House floor.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 3, 2016.

Hon. EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017. I agree that the Committee on Foreign Affairs has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to request a referral in the interest of expediting consideration of the bill. I agree that by foregoing a sequential referral, the Committee on Foreign Affairs is not waiving its jurisdiction. Further, this exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman.

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON
INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES,
May 2, 2016.

Hon. WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN THORNBERRY: I write to you concerning H.R. 4909, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, which contains provisions within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence ("the Committee"). The Committee recognizes the need for proceeding expeditiously to floor consideration of this important bill. Therefore, I do not intend to request a sequential referral.

This waiver is conditional on our mutual understanding that my decision to forego Committee consideration of this legislation does not diminish or otherwise affect any future claim over the matters in the bill which fall within the Committee's jurisdiction, and that a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging the Committee's jurisdictional interest will be placed into the committee report on H.R. 4909 and into the Congressional Record during consideration of this measure on the House floor.

I also intend to seek appointment of Committee members to any House-Senate conference on this legislation and request your support if such a request is made. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this and other matters between our respective committees.

Sincerely,

DEVIN NUNES,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 3, 2016.

Hon. DEVIN NUNES,
Chairman, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, House of Representatives, U.S. Capitol Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017. I agree that the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to request a referral in the interest of expediting consideration of the bill. I agree that by foregoing a sequential referral, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence is not waiving its jurisdiction. Further, this exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, because it fails to support our troops serving overseas. The House Armed Services Committee reported a bill that uses a budget gimmick to circumvent funding caps Congress passed into law on a bipartisan basis, and by doing so it not only undermines the budget process, it puts our troops at risk. The bill cuts \$18 billion from what our military commanders say is needed to support our troops overseas, and shifts those funds into the base defense budget to purchase billions of dollars of weapon systems the Defense Department did not even request. Consequently, the bill provides only enough funding for the troops deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq through April, 2017. This would then force Congress to pass an emergency supplemental to ensure that troops who are serving in harm's way have the resources they need for the remainder of the year. We shouldn't gamble with the troops we send off to battle. They deserve predictable support for the entire year as they execute their missions, particularly in view of the dangers they face.

Representative ELLISON offered an amendment to undo part of this gimmick. His amendment cuts \$9.4 billion of Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funds the bill shifted to procurement for weapons DoD didn't ask for and puts it back into operations and maintenance, where DoD requested it for overseas operations. I supported the amendment because it puts the troops first. It gives them the certainty they need while they carry out their missions. It is also what our military com-

manders say they need. Unfortunately, that amendment did not pass.

As the Ranking Member of the House Budget Committee, I also have worked hard to defend the integrity of the budget process and to end the abuse of the OCO designation to circumvent budget caps. I offered a bipartisan amendment with Representative MULVANEY that attempts to help reduce this abuse in the future. The amendment codifies criteria developed by OMB to clarify when military spending should be designated as contingency operations. To provide the necessary resources for a strong military and vital domestic investments, it is imperative our budget process be transparent and deliberative. Using budget gimmicks perpetuates bad decisions, increases debt by obfuscating spending, and in this case, puts the troops at risk.

This NDAA once again abdicates Congressional responsibility to revise and update the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF). The 2001 AUMF has been used to conduct a broad range of military operations across the world for the past fifteen years. Rather than act to narrowly target that authority to meet our current operational and national security requirements, Congress has continued to provide the Executive with a blank check to deploy American ground troops in many places in the Middle East and elsewhere around the globe. Representative LEE offered an amendment to force Congress to meet its constitutional obligations regarding its war powers. While I do not believe we should totally eliminate all authorities under the 2001 AUMF, I do believe we need to dramatically reduce its scope and end the grant of blank check authority to the Executive.

The NDAA should focus only on soldiers and their needs. However, Republicans have used it as a vehicle to insert inflammatory and non-germane amendments. It includes an amendment that reverses the President's Executive Order that prevents federal contractors from discriminating against LGBT employees. It removes environmental protections, impedes development of alternative fuel sources to decrease our dependence on foreign fuel, and it prevents the closure of the Guantanamo Bay detention facility.

I applaud certain measures such as the 2.1 percent pay raise for armed services, research to combat the opioid epidemic that is impacting our veterans, increased funding to combat veteran homelessness, and expanding the parental leave policy for active duty service members. I remain committed to fighting for these important issues but I cannot support the unacceptable budget gimmicks and policy riders in the underlying bill.

Mr. Chair, I vote nay.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL
ROCKY MCPHERSON

HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of retired Marine Colonel Rocky McPherson, who is retiring after 50 years of service to our nation and the state of Florida.

Upon graduating from the United States Naval Academy in 1966, Rocky was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United

States Marine Corps and began his military career with a ground combat tour in Vietnam. After one year as an infantry officer he transitioned into the aviation community and is the only Marine officer with both ground and aviation combat tours during the Vietnam War.

During Rocky's continued military service, he commanded the Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 121 aboard the USS *Ranger*, the Marine Air Training Support Group at Whidbey Island, Washington, and served as the Chief of Staff, III Marine Expeditionary Force in Okinawa, Japan. His final assignment before retiring from the Marine Corps was at Marine Corps Headquarters as the Deputy Director, Manpower Division.

Rocky then served as the Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, where he oversaw the most significant expansion of state veterans' nursing homes in decades, led department efforts to support Florida's returning severely wounded service members, and spearheaded plans to design and build the Florida World War II Memorial and monument—a replica of the larger monument located here in Washington, D.C. His personal and professional dedication to improving services for Florida's veterans has made a tremendous and lasting impact on the lives of over 1.5 million veterans and their family members in Florida.

Most recently, Rocky has used his talents to advance the mission of Enterprise Florida, a public-private partnership between Florida's business and government leaders that aims to encourage economic development in the state of Florida. As the organization's Vice President for Military and Defense Programs, Rocky has worked to protect, preserve, and improve Florida's military installations, as well as the communities surrounding those bases. Rocky's unparalleled experience and knowledge of military and defense issues have made him both a leader at the national level and an invaluable resource for Governors, State Legislators, and local defense community leaders across the state.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Colonel Rocky McPherson for the duty and honor he has consistently displayed throughout his 17 years of outstanding service to the state of Florida. We are truly better off because of his hard work, and I wish Rocky, his wife of 34 years Connie, their children Ashley, Nathan and Courtney, and their grandson, Jack all the best in the years to come.

IN HONOR OF RABBI RICHARD
LITVAK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of one of the most joyous and remarkable leaders that I have met in my 40 years of elective office. Rabbi Richard Litvak will retire this summer after 40 years of leadership at Temple Beth El in Aptos, California. In those years he has touched thousands of lives, nurturing their spiritual lives, counseling them in times of grief, bringing smiles in times of joy, and as a licensed family counselor, maybe even saving a few marriages. With the exception of my father, the

late Fred Farr, there is no man who I admire more for his exuberant humanity and transcendent love for all those around him.

Born in St. Joseph, Missouri, Rick grew up in a close-knit family whose social life centered around their own community's synagogue. In high school, he joined a Jewish youth group and a Mitzvah Corps program. That grounding in Reform Judaism encouraged his involvement in interfaith dialogue and Jewish social justice activism. This background led Rick to study at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio. He holds an MA in Hebrew Arts and Letters and is a rabbinic member of the Chesky Institute for Judaism and Psychotherapy.

Rick first came to Temple Beth El in 1975—the same year I was sworn in as a Monterey County Supervisor—as a student rabbi, and then in 1977 became its first full time rabbi. Under his leadership, the Temple community grew steadily, from 50 families to over 500 today. He added religious programs, Jewish adult education courses, expanded religious school curriculums, a preschool, and community center activities. Rick also helped lead the development and 1990 opening of the current Temple site.

In the broader community, Rick has built a towering reputation for leadership and peace building. He elevated social action and interfaith understanding to a central calling for the Temple Beth El community; supporting its leadership in the "Out in Our Faith" movement locally and nationally. People throughout Santa Cruz County and the Monterey Bay Area appreciate Rick for the faith, leadership, and joy that he brings to many social justice causes.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in thanking Rick for his years of service. The world is an immeasurably better place for having Rick among its people. I want to say what a pleasure it has been to work with him these many years. He is such an amazing leader. So much so, that once I heard that he planned to retire, I felt compelled to follow his example and announce my own retirement from elective office. I wish Rick, his amazing wife Nancy, and their daughters Jessica and Gwen, all the best. Shalom, my friend.

IN MEMORY OF APOSTLE WILLIAM
T. BROADOUS

HON. TONY CÁRDENAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to honor the life of a much loved community and spiritual leader, Apostle William T. Broadous, who passed away on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, at the age of 71.

Apostle William T. Broadous was born on December 1, 1944 in Portland, Oregon to Dr. Hillery T. and Rosa L. Broadous, who founded Calvary Baptist Church in Pacoima in 1955.

Apostle Broadous overcame challenges throughout his life, defying the odds, going on to found schools, lead missionary trips to Africa, and be a voice for the community.

Apostle Broadous continued the strong family tradition of social justice, service and commitment to Pacoima and the San Fernando Valley.

He was a strong supporter of community empowerment programs such as the San Fernando Valley Chapter of the NAACP and the Boys and Girls Club, as well as the Alicia Broadous-Duncan Senior Center in Pacoima.

After going to school at Bishop College in Dallas, TX, and spending nine years as the Pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church and director of several community centers, Apostle Broadous returned to the Valley.

Upon his return, he joined his father at Calvary Baptist Church and embraced his new role as Pastor after his father's passing in 1982.

Apostle Broadous dedicated his life to his community and his congregation, preaching at Calvary Baptist Church up until the day of his passing.

Apostle Broadous will be sorely missed in the San Fernando Valley. He is survived by his wife, Pastor Gloria L. Broadous, his children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and siblings, nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Apostle William T. Broadous. Although Apostle Broadous is no longer with us in person, his legacy will continue for generations to come.

HOUSING FOR HOMELESS
STUDENTS ACT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today, along with fellow Members of Congress, ERIK PAULSEN, KEITH ELLISON, and DAVE REICHERT, I am introducing bipartisan legislation to improve the Low Income Housing Tax Credit to ensure low-income families do not have to choose between stable, affordable housing and education.

The Low Income Housing Tax Credit is a highly successful tool for financing affordable housing and one of the premier examples of the government leveraging its resources in order to maximize outcomes through public-private partnerships. Unfortunately, a well-intentioned limitation called the "student rule" currently forces some of the most in-need to choose between housing and education.

The "student rule" was designed to prohibit Low Income Housing Tax Credit funds from being used to construct dormitories and to prevent college students, who often have temporarily low incomes, from utilizing resources meant for individuals and families with more serious and longer-term housing needs. Unfortunately, there are no exceptions for those who want to pursue full-time education and are truly in need of housing assistance.

Because of this, students may lose access to Low Income Housing Tax Credit-funded housing units if they go to school full-time. Alternatively, if they choose to attend school part-time in order to keep their LIHTC housing eligibility, these students may lose access to grants, loans, and scholarships that are limited to full-time students. The unintended outcome of the "student rule" is to hold back truly low-income individuals trying to obtain an education.

Our legislation adds two exceptions to the student rule; for formerly homeless youth and

for formerly homeless veterans. Both of these populations are vulnerable to a return to homelessness. Ensuring they can go to school while maintaining access to affordable housing can help prevent this regression and promote financial independence.

These small changes can provide immeasurable help and I hope all of my colleagues will join me in passing this legislation.

CONGRATULATING NAPSEC ON 45
YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the National Association of Private Special Education Centers (NAPSEC) for their 45 years of excellent service and academic dedication to our country's individuals with disabilities. NAPSEC's educational therapeutic services, combined with over four decades of experience, are invaluable to the education community across the United States and to the many partners in my home state of New Jersey.

Established in 1971, NAPSEC represents private specialized education programs including early intervention services, school programs, residential therapeutic centers, and college experience and adult living programs for individuals with disabilities and their families. The majority of NAPSEC's member programs provide services to publicly placed students with disabilities through the Continuum of Alternative Placements and Services required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Originally enacted into law in 1975, IDEA is the primary federal statute governing special education for children from birth through age 21 and guaranteeing the rights of children with disabilities to a free public education that suits their needs.

Nationwide, 6.6 million students with disabilities are ensured of and receive an education because of IDEA. While many of these children are successfully integrated into public schools and typical classrooms, IDEA requires that a variety of options are available to meet the individual needs of disabled students. Of these students, 3.4 percent are served in private specialized day and/or residential programs. NAPSEC member programs meet a vital need for individuals who are not able to thrive in a typical classroom environment, acknowledging each individual's unique experience, because every child has the right to an education that empowers them to succeed.

NAPSEC's hundreds of affiliates bridge the gap and offer much needed services to publically and privately placed individuals. In addition to K-12 education, these services also include early intervention services for infants and toddlers. As co-chair of the Coalition on Autism Research and Education (CARE), I've seen firsthand the impact that early intervention makes in successful outcomes for children and applaud this attention to early intervention.

Additionally, NAPSEC programs provide postsecondary college experience and adult living programs that serve individuals who have aged out of their school based supports and are no longer eligible for services under

IDEA. As 50,000 individuals with autism, and many more with other disabilities, age out of their education based supports every year, supports and services for these individuals are critically necessary in ensuring that young adults with disabilities can successfully transition into the next phase of their lives. Their services needs do not end when they turn 21.

NAPSEC programs improve educational outcomes for people with disabilities and empower them to achieve their full potential and make meaningful contributions to society. When individuals with disabilities are empowered to achieve, we all benefit.

I remain impressed by the quality of care and expertise NAPSEC's partners provide to America's students with disabilities, including those with autism. Again, I offer NAPSEC my sincerest congratulations and gratitude for their 45 years of service to the disabilities community and look forward to NAPSEC's continued progress in the future.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER
FIRE COUNCIL (NVFC)

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC).

This important organization represents the interests of volunteer fire, EMS and rescue workers, who make up approximately 69 percent of the nation's fire service. As co-chairman of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I am proud to work with the National Volunteer Fire Council to advocate for the interests of these brave men and women who volunteer their time and risk their lives for our communities.

The NVFC has been a powerful voice for the volunteer firefighter, EMT and rescue service. Since the Council began, fire death rate per million population declined by 70 percent and on-duty firefighter fatalities have dropped by half. The Council's efforts to promote safety and fire prevention are also noteworthy. The number of fire calls per year is less than half of what it was in 1980.

In the last few decades, we have learned more about the additional grave dangers that firefighters face, including cancer, PTSD, vehicle crashes, and heart events. I will continue to work with the NVFC to advocate for the health and safety of the volunteer fire service community.

The National Volunteer Fire Council has come a long way since its founding in 1976 and I know it will continue to serve its membership and the greater community well for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO VICKIE AND ED
ELWOOD

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Vickie and Ed

Elwood of Griswold, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on April 10, 2016.

Ed and Vickie's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. It is because of Iowans like them that I'm proud to represent our great state.

I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

HONORING SETH TOWERY ON
BEING ACCEPTED BY THE NA-
TIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE
PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SCI-
ENTISTS AS A DELEGATE TO
THE CONGRESS OF FUTURE
MEDICAL LEADERS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carl Junction High School student Seth Towery, of Joplin, Missouri, on his being accepted as a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors-only program that is designed to motivate and direct the top students in the United States. Specifically, it's designed for students aspiring to become physicians or medical researchers, and provides a path and mentorship for students to accomplish their goals.

To be considered for acceptance as a delegate, applicants are either recommended by a teacher or member of the Academy based on a proven track record of academic excellence. Delegates represent all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, and must have a minimum 3.5 GPA. Students like Towery who qualify for this incredibly selective honor exemplify top-tier diligence and academic talent.

Mr. Speaker, Seth Towery has displayed the ability to not only excel in the classroom, but to balance his interests in science and medicine with his athletic endeavors. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for this achievement. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I wish Seth the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE MEN AND
WOMEN WHO SERVE IN LAW EN-
FORCEMENT

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today, during National Police Week, I rise to recognize the brave men and women who serve in law enforcement.

Since 1962, this week has been reserved to commemorate the law enforcement officers who serve and protect our communities and

honor those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Every day, our cities and towns are kept safe by these individuals who put the safety of others before their own. I want to take this time to recognize a few of the 13th District's finest:

Officer Michael Bauer in Collinsville, Illinois, just recently pulled a man out of a burning building before firefighters were able to arrive.

Officers Jonathan McCauley and Aaron Rowe in Normal, Illinois saved the life of a young man after a tragic swimming accident. Disregarding their own safety, these officers took swift action to save the life of a stranger.

And Chief Deputy Bruce Engeling in my hometown of Taylorville was awarded Officer of the Year for his outstanding service and his commitment to the Christian County Sheriff's Department.

While these are just a few examples of the outstanding officers in my district, police officers and their families throughout our nation make sacrifices on a daily basis. I am incredibly thankful to all of the men and women in blue who dedicate their lives to protecting others. I know our communities are in good hands thanks to the work they do each and every day.

TRIBUTE TO MARY LOU AND MERLIN KRAUS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mary Lou and Merlin Kraus of Anita, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 24, 1956 at the Mt. Carmel Catholic Church in Mt. Carmel, Iowa.

Mary Lou and Merlin's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Debbie, Donna, Darlene, Mike, Annette, and the late Barbara, thirteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories and continued hope for the future.

I salute this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TWIN RIVERS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Twin Rivers Regional Medical Center on celebrating their 65th anniversary serving the healthcare needs of Kennett, Dunklin County, and the surrounding areas.

The hospital opened its doors and admitted its first patient on May 21, 1951 under the

name Dunklin County Memorial Hospital. Since then, it has been renamed and grown into a fully licensed, 116-bed facility that offers an extensive range of services including inpatient and outpatient, medical, surgical, obstetric, behavioral health, diagnostic and emergency care as well as primary care and family care clinics.

The medical center provides a full continuum of care to patients through a dedicated team of physicians, nurses, and staff. Every year, the hospital serves approximately 50,000 patients from six different counties. This includes the 15,000 Medicare beneficiaries and 20,000 Medicaid beneficiaries that are also served by the medical center.

Throughout its years of service, the hospital has remained dedicated to exceeding patient expectations while delivering compassionate, safe, quality care. Therefore, it is my privilege and honor to recognize the Twin Rivers Regional Medical Center on celebrating their 65th anniversary before the U.S. House of Representatives.

ZIKA RESPONSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition of H.R. 5243, the Zika Response Appropriations Act of 2016. It is a tepid response to an alarming public health crisis, only providing a small fraction of the amount requested by President Obama and public health experts.

The Zika virus poses a severe threat to Americans, especially pregnant women. It has been linked to the birth defect microcephaly, and even death. As we approach the summer months, the prevalence of mosquitoes in our backyards will increase, and more and more Americans will become exposed to the virus. We must provide sufficient emergency funding to contain the spread and develop a vaccine for this virus.

Unfortunately, today's bill would only provide approximately \$622 million to fight Zika, less than one-third of what public health experts like those at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) say is needed. Making matters worse, this bill offsets the cost of fighting Zika by taking vital resources away from addressing other public health crises.

Additionally, House Republicans have continued their attack on women's access to health care in this bill by incorporating restrictions on abortion coverage. It is shameful that anti-choice Members have used the urgency of the Zika virus to limit access to a woman's constitutionally affirmed right to choose.

It is dangerous to pretend that Congress has addressed this crisis. That illusion creates a false sense of comfort. For these reasons I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this bill and demand appropriate funding to guard Americans from this public health crisis.

STAFFORD HIGH TRACK & FIELD TEAM RUNS TO TITLE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Stafford High School Boys Track & Field Team from Stafford, TX for winning the University Interscholastic League (UIL) Class 4A 2016 State championship in Track & Field.

Despite some inclement weather and difficult opponents, the Stafford Spartan Boys Track & Field Team brought home the school's first state title since 1992. The team won the championship by defeating 57 other schools. The effort was led by impressive performances in the 100 meter dash (1st), the 4x200 relay (2nd), the 4x100 relay (4th), the 110 hurdles (1st), and the High Jump (3rd). We are proud of what these young men were able to accomplish and are excited to see what lies ahead for them.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the Stafford High School Boys Track & Field Team for all of their success at the UIL State Championships. Keep up the great work.

HONORING HANNAH STANSBURY ON BEING ACCEPTED BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SCI- ENTISTS AS A DELEGATE TO THE CONGRESS OF FUTURE MEDICAL LEADERS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Neosho High School student Hannah Stansbury on her being accepted as a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors-only program that is designed to motivate and direct the top students in the United States. Specifically, it's designed for students aspiring to become physicians or medical researchers, and provides a path and mentorship for students to accomplish their goals.

To be considered for acceptance as a delegate, applicants are either recommended by a teacher or member of the Academy based on a proven track record of academic excellence. Delegates represent all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, and must have a minimum 3.5 GPA. Students like Stansbury who qualify for this incredibly selective honor exemplify top-tier diligence and academic talent.

Mr. Speaker, as a perennial Honor Roll student at her high school, Hannah Stansbury has displayed elite academic qualifications, which will undoubtedly serve her future aspirations well. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for this achievement. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I wish Hannah the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MARGUERITE GOWIN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marguerite Gowin of Adel, Iowa, on the celebration of her 100th birthday. She has had an illustrious career, serving as the Dallas County Recorder from 1957–78. She and her husband, Kenneth owned a hardware store in Adel throughout their married life. In her later years, she is known for being a woman of high fashion—always seen wearing artistic jewelry, stylish clothing and topping it off with an infectious laugh and wide smile.

Our world has changed immensely during the course of Marguerite's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones, and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism, and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Ms. Gowin has lived through seventeen United States Presidents and twenty-one Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Ms. Gowin in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Marguerite Gowin for reaching this incredible milestone and in wishing her nothing but the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, due to a personal matter, I was unable to attend votes on May 16, 2016. I would have supported final passage of the following bills:

Roll Call Number 194 (H.R. 4743: National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium Act of 2016—on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass as Amended).

Roll Call Number 195 (H.R. 4407: Counterterrorism Advisory Board Act of 2016—on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended).

RECOGNIZING 160TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fairview Baptist Church, and the 160 years of spiritual guidance and service to the community of Town Bluff.

It is with great joy that we celebrate the 160th anniversary of the Fairview Baptist Church. The Fairview Baptist Church opened in 1856 with just about 40 parishioners under

the Reverend J. G. Masterson. It is in these early days that the Church also served as a schoolhouse for the children of Town Bluff. Fairview Baptist continued to expand into new buildings over the years, with the present building having broken ground in 1968.

Brother Scott Loar continues to preside over a growing church and vibrant congregation. May God continue to bless the Fairview Baptist Church and the entire congregation.

HONORING JENNY STARR THUERAUF ON BEING ACCEPTED BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SCIENTISTS AS A DELEGATE TO THE CONGRESS OF FUTURE MEDICAL LEADERS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor McAuley Catholic High School student Starr Thuerlauf, of Joplin, Missouri, on her being accepted as a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors-only program that is designed to motivate and direct the top students in the United States. Specifically, it's designed for students aspiring to become physicians or medical researchers, and provides a path and mentorship for students to accomplish their goals.

To be considered for acceptance as a delegate, applicants are either recommended by a teacher or member of the Academy based on a proven track record of academic excellence. Delegates represent all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, and must have a minimum 3.5 GPA. Students like Thuerlauf who qualify for this incredibly selective honor exemplify top-tier diligence and academic talent.

Mr. Speaker, Starr Thuerlauf will undoubtedly represent Missouri with distinction during her time as a delegate to this Congress. She has not only shown a strong academic capability during her time at school, but is also a well-rounded individual with a deep interest in the medical field. I would like to extend my personal congratulations for her achievement, and on behalf of the 7th District of Missouri, wish Starr the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2016 AS "NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION MONTH"

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing the importance of nonprofit organizations and designating September 2016 as "Nonprofit Organization Recognition Month." I would also like to

take this opportunity to thank my friend and colleague, Congressman TOM ROONEY for again introducing this resolution with me this year.

Nonprofit organizations have made many important contributions to our nation. Over the past decade, the number of nonprofits has risen steadily, and there are approximately 1.4 million of them now operating in the United States. These groups work to improve our schools. They work to protect our environment. They work to keep us and our neighbors around the world healthy. Each of them work to enact meaningful change in our world and to improve human lives.

Many nonprofits support science and research that will have a significant impact on future generations. Others advocate for vulnerable populations across the globe—for refugees, for the homeless, and for our nation's veterans. They educate and teach, and they engage each of our constituencies on issues that matter most.

The nonprofit sector is vital to the economic security of the United States. In fact, the growth rate of the nonprofit sector has surpassed the rate of both the business and government sector. Just a few years ago, in 2010, nonprofits added nearly \$780 billion to our national GDP and employed 1 in 10 working Americans. Today, nonprofits contribute nearly \$1 trillion to the United States economy annually. In addition, these organizations facilitate charitable giving and community activism, and the combined donations and volunteer hours of individuals to nonprofits are worth billions of dollars annually.

But perhaps most importantly, nonprofit organizations are founded and managed by people trying to make the world a better place. Whether they are abroad or at home, the work that these men and women do is incredibly meaningful. Without the people behind these organizations—working tirelessly to change the world, sometimes just one life at a time—the nonprofit sector would not be the force that it has become today.

Mr. Speaker, nonprofit organizations advocate for solutions to some of the great challenges facing our nation and the world, and they deserve to be recognized for their valuable contributions to society. No matter their focus, nonprofits play a pivotal role in shaping the future of America. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and to join me in designating September 2016 as "Nonprofit Organization Recognition Month."

TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN AND MICK MILLER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Carolyn and Mick Miller of New Market, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 10, 1966.

Mick and Carolyn's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. It is because of Iowans like them that I'm proud to represent our great state.

I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I

know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 241, THE
ACCESS ACT

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to have had the opportunity to testify today at the U.S. House Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Constitution and Civil Justice Hearing, "Examining Legislation to Promote the Effective Enforcement of the ADA's Public Accommodation Provisions."

As you know, the Americans with Disabilities Act is undoubtedly one of the most important pieces of civil rights legislation. We can all agree that providing all Americans with access to public accommodations is an invaluable legislative objective.

The purpose of the ADA is to ensure access for the disabled to public accommodation and provide appropriate remedial action for those who have suffered harm as a result of non-compliance. Although there are times when litigation by harmed individuals is necessary, there are an increasing number of lawsuits brought under the ADA that are based upon a desire to achieve financial settlements rather than to achieve the appropriate modifications for access. These lawsuits filed by serial litigants, often referred to as "drive-by lawsuits," place exorbitant legal fees on small businesses, and often times business owners are unaware of the specific nature of the allegations brought against them.

In early 2011, frivolous ADA lawsuits against small businesses reached an all-time high throughout California, and as a result, my good friend and colleague, former Congressman Dan Lungren (R-CA), championed the issue and introduced the original ACCESS Act (H.R. 3356) in the 112th Congress. I was pleased to have been afforded the opportunity to take over the legislation for reintroduction beginning in the 113th Congress. In January 2015, I reintroduced the legislation as H.R. 241, the ACCESS Act (ADA Compliance for Customer Entry to Stores and Services).

H.R. 241 is a cost-free and commonsense piece of legislation that would alleviate the financial burden small businesses are facing, while still fulfilling the purpose of the ADA. Any person aggrieved by a violation of the ADA would provide the owner or operator with a written notice of the violation, specific enough to allow such owner or operator to identify the barrier to their access. Within 60 days the owner or operator would be required to provide the aggrieved person with a description outlining improvements that would be made to address the barrier. The owner or operator would then have 120 days to make the improvement. The failure to meet any of these conditions would allow the lawsuit to go forward.

I think we can all agree that we must ensure that individuals with disabilities are afforded the same access and opportunities as those without disabilities. Frivolous lawsuits do not accomplish this goal. Allowing small business owners and cities alike to fix ADA violations

within 120 days, rather than waiting for lengthy legal battles to play out, is a more thoughtful, timely, and reasonable approach.

While the ADA is a national law, California has become ground zero for ADA violation lawsuits. In fact, California is home to more federal disability lawsuits than the next four states combined. A 2014 report determined that since 2005, more than 10,000 federal ADA lawsuits had been filed in the five states with the highest disabled populations; 7,188 of which were filed in California. Violating the ADA in California carries a minimum \$4,000 penalty in addition to the plaintiffs legal fees. As of 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 31 individuals made up at least 56 percent of federal disability lawsuits in California. As was mentioned during the second panel of today's hearing, California has 12 percent of the nation's disabled population, but accounts for over 40 percent of ADA lawsuits. Those figures and the real life toll it takes on small business owners, are why I introduced this legislation to allow for a "fix-it" period.

However, it is clear that this is not just a major problem in California. The introduction, in November 2015, of similar legislation by the gentleman from Texas, Representative TED POE, shows just that. His legislation authorizes a training and education component for the affected community and Certified Access Specialists, which I would welcome and embrace as an amendment to my bill.

This is also a bipartisan issue supported by states. I was pleased to see that California SB 269 passed unanimously in the State Assembly and Senate, and was signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown on May 10th, 2016. SB 269 was authored by a friend of mine, Democratic State Senator, Gen. Richard Roth. The legislation is similar to the ACCESS Act in that it allows businesses to take immediate steps to become accessible by providing them with 120 days, from receipt of a Certified Access Specialist report, to resolve any identified violations without being subject to litigation costs or statutory penalties. I worry that with California acting to curb these lawsuits, some of these serial litigants will try their trade in other states.

Without question, the ACCESS Act will ensure that the ADA is used for its true purpose of guaranteed accessibility to public accommodations for all Americans while eliminating abusive, costly and unnecessary lawsuits for small business owners.

It is more important than ever that the House of Representatives act to move this vital piece of legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday May 16, my return to Washington, D.C. was unavoidably delayed. As a result, I missed two recorded votes.

On Roll Call Vote Number 194, H.R. 4743—National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium Act;

On Roll Call Vote Number 195, H.R. 4407—Counterterrorism Advisory Board Act;

Had I been present, I would have voted Yes.

THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR
TECHNICAL COLLEGES

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Committee on Education and the Workforce, under the leadership of Chairman JOHN KLINE held a hearing on the importance of reauthorizing the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act.

This Act provides individuals with the necessary academic and technical tools to succeed in this skills-based jobs market. We should support our career and technical colleges that improve the lives of many hard-working Americans.

In South Carolina, we have sixteen remarkable technical colleges that have been successful in helping to create jobs throughout the state and particularly the Second Congressional District. Apprenticeship Carolina has been successful in creating more than 15,000 apprentices to date, partnering with businesses such as Michelin and Continental. Thank you to their Director Brad Neese and the South Carolina technical college presidents. A special congratulations to Dr. Forest Mahan, who was selected to be the fifth president of Aiken Technical College on Monday. Godspeed President Susan Winsor.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops and may the President by his actions never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

TRIBUTE TO THE SUNSHINE CLUB

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sunshine Club for their 61st year of fellowship, service and support in central Iowa.

The Sunshine Club was founded in 1955 by three residents of the Morrisburg area, south of Panora, Iowa. The club's membership today has 22 members of various ages who reside in the areas of Panora, Stuart, Menlo, Dexter, Redfield and Casey. Its threefold purpose of service to their community, socializing and enjoying life is what brings them together. Club members now say that faith, friendship and food has kept the group together this long.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Sunshine Club for making their communities in central Iowa a better place to live by their acts of service. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating the Sunshine Club and wishing them nothing but continued success.

HONORING JENNY KAYLIN HUNZICKER ON BEING ACCEPTED BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SCIENTISTS AS A DELEGATE TO THE CONGRESS OF FUTURE MEDICAL LEADERS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hollister High School student Kaylin Hunzicker, of Neosho, Missouri, on her being accepted as a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors-only program that is designed to motivate and direct the top students in the United States. Specifically, it's designed for students aspiring to become physicians or medical researchers, and provides a path and mentorship for students to accomplish their goals.

To be considered for acceptance as a delegate, applicants are either recommended by a teacher or member of the Academy based on a proven track record of academic excellence. Delegates represent all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, and must have a minimum 3.5 GPA. Students like Hunzicker who qualify for this incredibly selective honor exemplify top-tier diligence and academic talent.

Mr. Speaker, Kaylin Hunzicker has not only demonstrated that she is qualified to represent Missouri through her strong academic performance, but has also displayed a true passion for medical science and medicine that will serve her well in future endeavors. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for this achievement. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I wish Kaylin the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE HONORING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FREEDOM RIDERS WHO BRAZENLY DESEGREGATED INTERSTATE TRAVEL

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Freedom Rides Museum in Montgomery, Alabama in its commemoration of the 55th anniversary of the Freedom Riders—the brave civil rights activists who peacefully fought against the unconstitutional public transportation segregation in the deep South in 1961.

On May 14, 1961, Freedom Riders arrived in Anniston, Alabama on a Greyhound bus. They were met by an angry mob of nearly 200 white people who surrounded the bus and caused the driver to pass the bus stop. They were followed by the angry mob until the bus tires blew out which is when a bomb was thrown into the bus filled with peaceful civil rights activists. Barely escaping with their lives, the Freedom Riders watched the bus burst into flames and were then brutally beaten by members of the surrounding mob.

A second bus traveled to Birmingham, Alabama. Those Freedom Riders were also met by angry mobs and were savagely beaten, some by metal pipes. The Birmingham Public Safety Commissioner at the time stated that he knew the Freedom Riders would be met with violence but posted no police protection because it was a holiday—Mother's Day.

On May 20, 1961, it was the Montgomery, Alabama city line where the Governor-appointed Highway Patrol abandoned the Freedom Riders they were charged to escort into the city. Their nonviolence was met with organized brutality of the worst kind. At the historic Montgomery Greyhound Station, the Freedom Riders were attacked as they exited by Jim Crow enthusiasts, beaten within inches of their lives by bats and iron pipes. Many riders were left for dead in the streets. Ambulances refused to transport the wounded to hospitals. Some members of the community stepped in, and tried to rescue the lives of those who dared challenge the unconstitutional Jim Crow laws of the South.

It is my great honor to represent the 7th Congressional District—an area that is rich with the history of the young activists who defied systemic oppression, fought for the rights of others and asked for nothing except recognition as humans in return. These individuals continue to inspire me and the work I do day after day.

In commemoration of the 55th anniversary, I want to recognize the Freedom Riders who risked their reputations and lives for the humanity of others. This diverse group of young people believed in persistence for obtaining equality and justice for all people and inspired millions to take a stand for their own beliefs of equity. The Freedom Riders made a daring choice in 1961—to fight against segregation and oppression in an innovative way that changed the course of American history forever.

The valiant efforts of Freedom Riders such as Charles Person, William Harbour, Catherine Burks-Brooks, Bernard Lafayette, Jr., Ernest "Rip" Patton, Jr., Kwame Leo Lillard, Frances Wilson Canty, Allen Cason Jr., David Dennis, Larry Hunter, Alphonso Petway, Kredelle Petway, Betty Daniels Rosemond, Mary Jean Smith, Doratha Smith-Simmons, Willie Thomas, Jean Thompson, Joan C. Browning and Etta Simpson Ray led the charge to the ultimate desegregation of the bus system in Montgomery and the unification of a people to continue to fight for their rights.

The Freedom Rides Museum in Montgomery, AL serves as a strong cornerstone in the narrative of the role of Alabama in the Civil Rights Movement. I want to thank the Alabama Historical Commission and its director Lisa Jones for their role in safeguarding Alabama's historic buildings and sites such as the Freedom Rides Museum. A special thanks to the leadership of Museum director Dorothy Walker and the amazing supporting staff members of the Freedom Rides Museum for their efforts in honoring the past and preserving the present for future generations to learn. The Freedom Rides Museum could not have been what it is without support from community members as well such as Judge Myron Thompson who helped save the building that is now the Museum as well as Johnnie Carr, former President of the Montgomery Improvement Association for all of her support as well as Louretta Wimberly of the

Black Heritage Council. A special thanks to historian Dr. J. Mills Thornton who played a pivotal role in the creation of the Museum.

The Freedom Riders are quintessential examples of how change can happen when we work together and fearlessly stand for what is right. I give us all the charge to—like the Freedom Riders, continue to battle against inequality and stand strong by our great nation's principles of democracy, liberty and justice for all.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 55th Anniversary of the Freedom Riders who in the summer of 1961 dared to make a difference and forever changed America for the better.

BREAKING THROUGH POWER: A HISTORIC CIVIC MOBILIZATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following. Ralph Nader is a resident of Connecticut's First District, and has long been a champion for social justice, as well as a crusading consumer advocate who has had a lasting impact on consumer rights and the American political milieu.

RALPH NADER PRESENTS—BREAKING THROUGH POWER: A HISTORIC CIVIC MOBILIZATION

Celebrating the 50th anniversary year of Ralph Nader's book *Unsafe at Any Speed*, the Center for Study of Responsive Law announces four days of civic mobilization at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. on May 23, 24, 25 and 26, 2016. *Unsafe at Any Speed* unleashed fresh energies and sparked the creation of numerous advocacy organizations leading to major consumer, environmental and worker safety protections. The theme of this citizen mobilization will be elaborating ways to break through power to secure long-overdue democratic solutions made possible by a new muscular civic nexus between local communities and Washington, D.C.

On these four days, speakers will present innovative ideas and strategies designed to take existing civic groups to higher levels of effectiveness. The participants will be asked to support the creation of several new organizations. One such group will work to open up the commercial media, which use the public airwaves free of charge, to serious content. Another will facilitate action by retired military, national security and diplomatic officials who want to deter unconstitutional and unlawful plunges into wars that lead to calamitous and costly blowbacks.

This "Civic Mobilization" will involve thousands of people at Constitution Hall and around the country and connect long-available knowledge to long-neglected action for the necessities and aspirations of people from all backgrounds. Many of the presentations will feature reforms and redirections for the common good enjoy Left/Right support.

Breaking Through Power: How it's Done—May 23, 2016 will feature presentations by seventeen citizen advocacy groups. Over decades these activists have produced amazing accomplishments against powerful odds. These civic leaders will demonstrate how, with modest budgets and stamina, they have improved the health, safety and economic well-being of the people and focused public opinion onto decision-makers and opponents. Through greater visibility, broader support

and wider emulation, they will present their future missions and show that it can be “easier than we think” to make major changes. For the first time ever, this diverse group of fighters for justice will be assembled together on stage at Constitution Hall and show that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts when fighting for a broader democratic society. The presenters will appraise what levels of citizen organization is necessary to fulfill these broadly-desired missions.

Breaking Through Power: The Media—May 24, 2016, brings together also for the first time a large gathering of authors, documentary filmmakers, reporters, columnists, musicians, poets and editorial cartoonists. All of these presenters have documented or depicted entrenched wrongdoing by the corporate state or “crony capitalism”—the cruel impacts of corporate crimes and abuses, the absence of governmental law enforcement, and the harmful effects of concentrated corporate power.

The speakers all seek wider audiences for their works: more readers, viewers and listeners. Unfortunately the mass media barons prefer to wallow in incessant advertising, hedonistic entertainment, sports and mind-numbing redundancy. The result is what many observers see as the stupefaction of human intelligence. A major purpose of Day Two is the creation of a “Voices” advocacy organization that puts forces in motion to inject serious programming into the over-the-air and cable networks under a revitalized Communications Act of 1934 and generally champion a greater life of the mind on all media.

Breaking Through Power: War—May 25, 2016 is dedicated to enhancing the waging of peace over the waging of war. We will assemble leading scholars having military and national security backgrounds, veterans groups such as Veterans for Peace, and long-time peace advocacy associations, to explain how peace is more powerful than war. The speakers will address the horrors of war, its huge costs here and abroad to innocents and the weakening blowbacks of Empire amidst a collapse of constitutional and international law. One outcome of this day will be the establishment of a Secretariat comprised of current and former top-level military, national security and diplomatic officials who have spoken truth to reckless power. If organized for quick responses, their credibility, experience and wisdom can resist and prevent the kind of prevaricating pressures and unilateral policies that drove the unlawful destruction of Iraq, Libya and beyond.

Breaking Through Power: Congress—May 26, 2016 will unveil a new Civic Agenda to be advanced by engaged and enraged citizens in each Congressional district. The Civic Agenda includes recognized necessities ignored by Congress for decades. The planks of this Civic Agenda will be presented by nationally-recognized advocates—a veritable brain trust for the well-being of present and future generations. Each speaker will present the substance of each demand, which will be conveyed to their members of Congress via organized “Citizen Summons” in each Congressional District. Revitalizing the people to assert their sovereignty under our Constitution is critical to the kind of government, economy, environment and culture that will fulfill human possibilities and respect posterity.

For more details on the week’s agendas, speakers and how you can attend and participate, visit breakingthroughpower.org.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAUREEN RUSSELL

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maureen Russell on her retirement after twenty-seven years of outstanding public service as a Victim Witness Advocate at the Norfolk District Attorney’s Office.

Maureen launched her extraordinary career in the Special Victims Unit, where she worked with severely traumatized victims of sexual abuse and assault. Through her strength of character and compassion, she provided victims and their families the tools necessary to navigate the complexities of the state court system, assist in prosecuting offenders, and, ultimately, begin to rebuild their lives.

Maureen has most recently been serving her community as a Superior Court Advocate in the Norfolk Superior Court, where she advocates for families of victims of homicide and other serious crimes. Among numerous other families supported by Maureen is that of Joanna Mullin, a six-year-old tragically murdered by her cousin. As she has so often done, Maureen went above and beyond the call of duty in her advocacy for the Mullins, steadfastly supporting the family as they traversed the arduous criminal justice process. Having assisted the Mullins family through the aftermath of their tragedy and the processes of the court, she continues maintains a strong relationship with the family to this day. It is this dedication and passion that is exemplary of quality victim advocacy.

Throughout her years of service, Maureen has never strayed from her commitment to providing each and every victim in her community the attention and care they deserve. Her experience in the criminal justice system and her professional and personal relationships with prosecutors, colleagues, law enforcement officers, and other professionals has allowed Maureen to smooth an otherwise turbulent, uncertain, and difficult process for victims and their families. Our community is deeply grateful to Maureen for having been a person to trust and a shoulder to lean on during these victims’ most difficult times.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise in honor of Maureen Russell, who embodies all of the best qualities of a Victim Advocate. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this distinguished public servant and in wishing her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO NELLIE AND J.V.
“SWEDE” SWANSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Swede and Nellie Swanson of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They were married on March 19, 1946 in Osborn, Kansas.

Swede and Nellie’s lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies

Iowa values. It is because of Iowans like them that I’m proud to represent our great state.

I commend this great couple on their 70th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

PASSAGE OF H.R. 5243

HON. STACEY E. PLASKETT

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, last night, this Congress passed a bill to allocate funding for resources to fight the spread of the Zika virus. This funding, however, is woefully insufficient.

H.R. 5243 provides less than one-third of the White House request sent to Congress earlier this year.

Additionally, this bill also completely neglects the immediate needs of the territories of Puerto Rico and my home district of the U.S. Virgin Islands, which are both on the front line of this public health crisis.

Of the 1200 confirmed cases in the United States, more than half have been reported in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

While the Administration requested about \$256 million in health care assistance to the territories, H.R. 5243 bill provides no targeted funding to the U.S. Territories.

The House bill also cuts the request for research and development of vaccines, treatments, and diagnostics by \$132 million or 28.4 percent.

The lack of funding for these public health activities will put hundreds of thousands of pregnant women at risk. The lifetime cost of treating a child with microcephaly is estimated to be more than \$10 million—a cost that will only exacerbate the financial woes of the territories’ public health apparatus.

Mr. Speaker, every day this Congress debates whether or not to protect women and unborn children from this virus, more cases are being reported and confirmed.

Just last week, the first U.S. case of Zika-related microcephaly was identified in a pregnancy in Puerto Rico.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to continue toward funding the President’s emergency request to fight the Zika virus. We need to eradicate this mosquito now. We cannot wait for June for more authorized funding.

HONORING BEAU LOYD ON BEING
ACCEPTED BY THE NATIONAL
ACADEMY OF FUTURE PHYSICIANS
AND MEDICAL SCIENTISTS
AS A DELEGATE TO THE CONGRESS
OF FUTURE MEDICAL
LEADERS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joplin High School student Beau Loyd on his being accepted as a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors-only program that is designed to motivate and direct the top students in the United States. Specifically, it's designed for students aspiring to become physicians or medical researchers, and provides a path and mentorship for students to accomplish their goals.

To be considered for acceptance as a delegate, applicants are either recommended by a teacher or member of the Academy based on a proven track record of academic excellence. Delegates represent all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, and must have a minimum 3.5 GPA. Students like Loyd who qualify for this incredibly selective honor exemplify top-tier diligence and academic talent.

Mr. Speaker, Beau Loyd has displayed the ability to not only excel in the classroom, but to balance his interests in science and medicine with his athletic endeavors as an athlete. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for this achievement. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I wish Beau the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. RICHARD
HERRICK

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly outstanding constituent in the field of health care, Richard Herrick of Lenox, Massachusetts. Mr. Herrick has been selected this year as one of the recipients of the prestigious Joe Warner Patient Advocacy Award. The American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) bestows this annual award on Association members who have worked diligently to educate Members of Congress about the needs of long term care patients and residents, and to advance quality in the long term and post-acute care community.

Mr. Herrick's commitment to improving long term care continues today as the President and CEO of the New York Health Facilities Association, Inc. (NYSHFA) and the New York State Center for Assisted Living, representing over 350 skilled nursing and assisted living facilities.

At the national level, Mr. Herrick serves on the Board of Governors of the American Health Care Association and on their Business Management Committee. He also serves as President of the Affiliated State Health Care Association Executives. Mr. Herrick is past member of AHCA's Council of States and Board of Directors of the National Center for Assisted Living. AHCA/NCAL is the nation's largest association of professional long term health providers.

Prior to joining New York Health Facilities Association, Inc., Mr. Herrick spent seven years as President and COO of Wingate Health Care, Inc., which operates seven nursing facilities in Massachusetts and three in New York. Mr. Herrick is active on the Boards of Berkshire Healthcare Systems which operates 19 skilled nursing facilities and Berkshire Place located in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. He is the past chairman of the Board of the Massachusetts Senior Care Association.

The award presentation will take place during the AHCA/NCAL Congressional Briefing on May 23rd. Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing and thanking Richard Herrick for his years of dedication and care to our nation's frail, elderly and disabled. His career and life accomplishments truly reflect the ideals embodied in the Joe Warner Patient Advocacy Award.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY SHIPP
HARROW AND MARTHA SHIPP
AVERETT

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to Mrs. Mary Shipp Harrow and Mrs. Martha Shipp Averett, both of whom will celebrate their 100th birthday on Saturday, July 2, 2016. On that special day, the sisters will be honored with a birthday celebration at the Columbus Georgia Convention & Trade Center in Columbus, Georgia.

The identical twins were born on July 2, 1916 in Cusseta, Georgia to the late Martha Walker Shipp and the late Quilbert Pinchback Shipp. They were raised in a Christian home where the twins were the oldest of eight children. From an early age, the sisters were active in their community and in their first church home, Harmony Baptist Church in Cusseta, Georgia. They completed their primary and secondary education in the Chattahoochee County School District.

Mrs. Averett was married to the late Reverend Jessie Averett, Sr. and is the mother of six daughters: Geraldine Parris, Lucy Mae Baldwin, Essie Francis, Amanda Thornton, Ida Mae Boykins, and Martha Ann Patterson; and four sons: Jessie Averett, Jr., James Averett, Jeffrey Averett, and the late John Henry Averett. She has 21 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren. Mrs. Averett remains in the Cusseta community and is a dedicated and faithful member of Saint Paul CME Church.

Mrs. Harrow was married to the late Isaac Daniel Harrow, Sr. and is the mother of five daughters: Evelyn Gash, Christine Jones, Pauline Talley, Beverly Caldwell and Gerri Jones; and two sons: the late Isaac Harrow, Jr. and the late Marion Harrow. She is the grandmother of 21 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great-grandchildren. Mrs. Harrow is a dedicated and faithful member of Galilee Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Where there is love there is life." Mrs. Harrow and Mrs. Averett are a true testament that giving and receiving great love has resulted in long and prosperous lives. Their legacy is a love for God, a love for family, and a love for each other.

The race of life isn't given to the swift or to the strong, but to those who endure until the end. Mrs. Averett and Mrs. Harrow continue to run the race of life with grace and dignity and God has blessed them over their lifetimes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring these devoted sisters, beloved matriarchs, and outstanding women of

faith, Mrs. Mary Shipp Harrow and Mrs. Martha Shipp Averett, as they, their families and their community prepare to celebrate their 100th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO CASSIDY WAGNER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Cassidy Wagner for being named Southwest Iowa Regional Academic All-State Standout by the Des Moines Register. Cassidy is a senior at West Central Valley High School.

Each year, the Des Moines Register editors ask Iowa high school officials to nominate seniors for this honor. They choose only those students that stand out among their peers for achievements in academics, community involvement and leadership. Cassidy exemplifies all that is right about Iowa's well-rounded students.

Mr. Speaker, Cassidy Wagner is an Iowan who has made her school and her community very proud. She has worked hard and dedicated herself to being a great student and a good citizen. It is with great honor that I recognize her today. I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring Cassidy for this award and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL TRACK
STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Thurgood Marshall High School track and field team for winning the University Interscholastic League (UIL) 5A state track championship for the second year in a row.

The Marshall Buffalos were led to victory by their coach Lloyd Banks. Their overall score of 52 points outperformed the competition by a substantial 16 points. Junior sprinter Shamon Ehiemua helped lead his team to success by defending his state title in the 200-meter dash with a time of 20.62 seconds. In addition to Ehiemua's efforts, teammate John Isom placed fifth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 48.19 seconds. Teammates Cedarian Lynch, Ehiemua, Jarmaiz Whitaker and Isom were awarded a gold medal in the 4x100-meter relay with an astounding time of 40.13 seconds. Their win is even more impressive considering runner Jeremy Smith was recovering from a foot injury during the relay.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the Fort Bend Marshall Track and Field Team for winning the 5A state track championship for the second time. Thank you for bringing this championship title back to Fort Bend County.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted No on Roll Call No. 222.

THE LANTOS FOUNDATION FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS AND JUSTICE'S
SOLIDARITY SABBATH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Lantos Foundation's second Solidarity Sabbath, which highlights the deplorable human rights violations committed by the People's Republic of China against its citizens who simply wish to openly and sincerely practice their respective faiths.

Many of us will attend worship services in the coming days and we will do so without fear of arrest, torture, or forced re-education. I hope that those of us attending services this weekend will take time to meditate and pray on the importance of religious freedom here at home and around the world. The human spirit is remarkably resilient. This resiliency is undoubtedly strengthened through religious faith and practice and cannot and will not be extinguished through the draconian state action we see taking place in China. Indeed, as I am sure the Chinese government is realizing, its draconian tactics to suppress and intimidate the religious faithful do not diminish the numbers of those seeking to practice their faith but rather multiplies their number exponentially.

Sadly, there are myriad cases of people of faith being harassed, intimidated, and arrested today in China. Indeed, Protestant, Catholic, Tibetan Buddhist, Uyghur Muslim, Falun Gong, and other religious minorities face such a reality every day. A recent survey of religious intimidation in China noted that Chinese officials oversaw the demolition of over thirty churches, the removal of more than four hundred crosses from houses of worship, and the detention of over three hundred worshipers with half of these people suffering injuries sustained during their arrests. It should be noted that this paints a picture for just one province in China; there are many similar stories across China where those seeking to simply practice their respective faiths are consistently harassed, detained, and injured for exercising a basic human right.

While we must certainly lend our support to the religious faithful in China as they strive to exercise their basic human right to worship where, when and what they so desire, we must also applaud and support the brave human rights lawyers in China who champion the rights of the religious faithful in the face of unthinkable intimidation as practiced by the Chinese government. These brave men and women have provided rule of law training to church members throughout China. Indeed, this past year these lawyers were able to conduct over one hundred trainings for over one

hundred thousand religious practitioners. This has resulted in these practitioners filing important administrative lawsuits against the government in an effort to quell the Chinese government's acts of religious persecution.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the Lantos Foundation for its inspired work to bring light to the plight of the religious faithful in China. I will this weekend, as I always have and will continue to do, stand in solidarity with my brothers and sisters of faith in China. Their right to practice their religion is a fundamental right and it must be protected.

HONORING JENNY SHUNYAKOVA
ON BEING ACCEPTED BY THE
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE
PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SCI-
ENTISTS AS A DELEGATE TO
THE CONGRESS OF FUTURE
MEDICAL LEADERS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Laurel Springs High School student Jenny Shunyakova, of Springfield, Missouri, on her being accepted as a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors-only program that is designed to motivate and direct the top students in the United States. Specifically, it's designed for students aspiring to become physicians or medical researchers, and provides a path and mentorship for students to accomplish their goals.

To be considered for acceptance as a delegate, applicants are either recommended by a teacher or member of the Academy based on a proven track record of academic excellence. Delegates represent all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, and must have a minimum 3.5 GPA. Students like Shunyakova who qualify for this incredibly selective honor exemplify top-tier diligence and academic talent.

Mr. Speaker, Jenny Shunyakova has not only excelled in her academic studies, but also shown a persistent interest in biology and other fields related to medical professions that will serve her future aspirations well. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for this achievement. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I wish Jenny the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO EVELYN AND JIM
WHIPPLE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Evelyn and Jim Whipple of Clarinda, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on April 22. They were married in 1951.

Evelyn and Jim's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies

Iowa values. It is because of Iowans like them that I'm proud to represent our great state.

I commend this great couple on their 65th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE MS
GULF COAST 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Boys & Girls Club of the Mississippi Gulf Coast on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary.

In serving the citizens of Mississippi's Fourth Congressional District, I am proud to meet people of all kinds, especially young people who have their hopes and dreams still ahead of them. As part of their daily routine, they must decide what actions they will take that day which will, in turn, affect their future. The Boys & Girls Club of the Gulf Coast plays a vital role in shining a ray of hope into the lives of young people who may not see a bright future ahead of themselves.

Originally named the Biloxi Boys Club, the organization began in 1966, with the help of the Biloxi Jaycees, to serve 15 young men. Today, there are over 1,700 registered members, five locations, and a daily attendance of approximately 800 young men and women of the Gulf Coast region.

It is our responsibility, as a community, to invest in the lives of our future leaders. The Boys & Girls Club of the Gulf Coast strives to develop productive, responsible, and caring citizens.

The organization leads our community's efforts to improve academic success, healthy lifestyles, and good character in our young men and women. This is accomplished by offering our young people a safe and supportive place to go and by providing them with quality programs to teach responsibility, positive character development, sports, and academic progress, among other important aspects of leadership.

The Boys & Girls Club of the Gulf Coast is a valuable asset for our Coast children. Once again, I commend the Boys & Girls Club of the Gulf Coast as they mark the 50th anniversary of improving young lives along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

HONORING U.S. ARMY SERGEANT
MICAH WELINTUKONIS UPON HIS
RETIREMENT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished military service of Army Sergeant Micah Welintukonis of Coventry, Connecticut who will retire on May 19, 2016 after 16 years and 5 months of active duty. Sgt Welintukonis' record reads like a history book of U.S. military action over the last

22 years. He served in Kosovo during his first stint of active duty in the 1990s. Later, as a member of the Connecticut National Guard he deployed to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom, then served in Afghanistan where he was severely injured by a suicide bomb attack in 2012. During that time, he rose through the ranks to Sergeant and accumulated an impressive array of awards and medals, including the Purple Heart, Army Commendation with Valor, Combat Medic Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, Commanding Generals Certificate of Merit, and the Coast Guard and United States Marine Corps Certificates of Appreciation.

At the time of his injury, he was a medic, certified at the highest levels and performed many life-saving missions with skill and care for the men and women he served with.

The first time I met Sgt. Welintukonis was under extraordinary circumstances. He had just arrived at Walter Reed Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland where he had flown in from Landstuhl Hospital in Germany, still suffering in agonizing pain from his life threatening abdominal injury. His amazing wife, Camilla, was at his bedside comforting him, but it was clear that his condition was very critical. Even though he was not aware of my presence, I had the opportunity to witness his incredible inner strength and ferocious will to live that carried him through that dark hour and a long and difficult recovery. With the support of his wife and family, Micah is healthy and ready to start a new chapter of his life.

Wherever he and his family go, one thing is sure. Micah will be a passionate advocate for American veterans and for a strong national defense. I know that because my email inbox has been bursting with messages, articles, and suggestions—sometimes sent in the middle of the night—about improving services for those who wear the uniform of our country. Today, he is active in veterans' service organizations such as the Connecticut American Legion, Special Operations Wounded Warriors, and as the Director of InTheLineOfDuty, a volunteer-run charity for First Responders.

In addition to that formal involvement he has organized fund raiser walk-a-thons, school visits, and national veterans media events to generate funds and awareness of the challenges America's veterans, in particular wounded veterans, confront every day.

America has been, and still is, lucky to have the tenacious, spirited, (sometimes a little grouchy) and high-quality contributions of Sgt. Micah Welintukonis over the last 22 years. Please join me in thanking him, his wife Camilla, and their children for all they have done for our nation and wish them well in all their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF MR. E. DALE
WORTHAM

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the memory of a distinguished labor leader: Mr. E. Dale Wortham. Throughout Mr. Wortham's life, he held a variety of positions, including President of the Harris County Labor Assembly for over

20 years, Vice President/Organizer of Local 716, and as delegate at many national and state conventions. In these positions, he was on the front lines in the fight for a living wage and fair working conditions.

Mr. Wortham was not only a notable labor leader, but also served on the Harris County Board of Managers for the Harris Health System, earning the distinction of the body's longest-serving labor representative. Mr. Wortham will be especially remembered for his passion for helping people through the political process, especially working people.

Mr. Speaker, I am blessed to say farewell to a dear friend who is gone but not forgotten. He will be missed dearly by a multitude of family and friends. This family includes his children, Stephen Dale Wortham and Melinda Wortham; his sisters, Becky Rogers (George), Leslie Broussard (Jimmy), and Lisa Persky (Ronnie); as well as his brother, Jason Krieg.

TRIBUTE TO JANIS AND RUSTY
CREVELING

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Janis and Rusty Creveling of Manchester, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on March 17, 1966.

Rusty and Janis' lifelong commitment to each other, their children Ronda, Brian, and Holly, and their grandchildren truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary may their commitment grow even stronger, and continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

IN MEMORY OF THE MEDAL OF
HONOR RECIPIENT UNITED
STATES NAVY SEAL PETTY OF-
FICER 2ND CLASS MICHAEL A.
MONSOOR

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this coming Memorial Day in memory and in gratitude to all of the magnificent heroes like Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael A. Monsoor. The ones who gave that last full measure in the name of freedom for their country and brothers in Arms. On April the 8th 2008, Michael was posthumously presented the Medal of Honor by President Bush at the White House for sacrificing himself by jumping on a grenade on September 29, 2006 for his fellow SEALs. On this Memorial Day let our thoughts and prayers go out to him and his family and all of those who have given their lives throughout the years in the name of freedom. I submit this poem penned in his honor by Albert C. Caswell.

THAT LAST FULL MEASURE

All in that moment between Life and Death
When, who lives or dies no less
When, courage comes to crest
As comes That Measure
That God-like Test
That Last Full Measure
Just All
Until, none lies left
As one of America's Best
Right between Life and Death
When, who lives or dies
So all upon us so rests
The greatest of all tests
As to one's soul expressed
When comes
That Last Full Measure
Of which now so Blesses
As when one looks into that Face of Death
And so valiantly vanquishes Evil's Quest
As When Come's,
That Last Full Measure
That Golden Test
All in that moment which lies
As all in ones soul comprised
Which, brings such tears to the Angels eyes
Up On High
All In That Last Full Measure
As they watch and cry
At this American Treasure
At The Greatest Gift of All
As how one's Life is Measured
To hear that most solemn call
Of Love and Devotion,
and Sacrifice
All in that moment of selflessness as so real-
ized
To do what is right
To carry that night
All in That Last Full Measure
All in that fight
With your gift
The Greatest of All
The one that our Lord so Treasure's
Is but that "That Last Full Measure"
A SEAL OF HONOR
The One who so endeavored
In that Gift Michael you so gave
All in that most splendid treasure Michael,
the Lives you so saved
Perhaps, one day a child will come
Who too all of us among
Will bless our world to come
This one
With such gifts of love you've begun
A Cure For Cancer
For our world's problems finding the answers
Or maybe too,
as you "That Last Full Measure"
And from all of this perhaps will come such
Treasures
From all of this such happiness begun
And yet such sadness for all of your love
ones
That we can not so Measure
Take heart,
as one day you will all be together again
All in Heaven's Sun embracing then
Because of you Michael
For what you've done
And your most magnificent endeavor
In what you gave America's Son
All in,
That Last Full Measure
In the moment of truth,
how you behaved my son
As to our Lord's heart,
you've brought such pleasure
SEAL,
your new battle has now begun
Mount Up
As Thy Will Be Done
As it's time to run
In the Army of Our Lord,
as you are now one
An Angel
An Angel on high Michael

And oh how your power's have increased
 As you watch over us in this battle to be won
 In life,
 moments are all we have
 Minutes to hearts to grab
 To Decisions Make
 To Fight for The Good
 Or The Bad
 If it's up in Heaven we wish to wake
 Today, We Stand
 With, Tear In Eye
 Understanding all the reason's why
 But, Where Your Honor Lies
 All because of you,
 Michael and your Sacrifice
 and That Last Full Measure

HONORING REBECCA PRICHARD ON
 BEING ACCEPTED BY THE NA-
 TIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE
 PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SCI-
 ENTISTS AS A DELEGATE TO
 THE CONGRESS OF FUTURE
 MEDICAL LEADERS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Branson High School student Rebecca Prichard on her being accepted as a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors-only program that is designed to motivate and direct the top students in the

United States. Specifically, it's designed for students aspiring to become physicians or medical researchers, and provides a path and mentorship for students to accomplish their goals.

To be considered for acceptance as a delegate, applicants are either recommended by a teacher or member of the Academy based on a proven track record of academic excellence. Delegates represent all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, and must have a minimum 3.5 GPA. Students like Prichard who qualify for this incredibly selective honor exemplify top-tier diligence and academic talent.

Mr. Speaker, Rebecca Prichard is not only an excellent student, but a well-rounded individual who is just as passionate about the medical field as she is about cheerleading. Rebecca will no doubt excel in her role as a delegate to this Congress and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for this achievement. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I wish Rebecca the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT ANDREW K. DICKINSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Andrew K. Dickinson of Council Bluffs, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Andrew is

a member of Boy Scout Troop 23. Troop 23 has been associated with Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs for over 50 years.

The Eagle Scout designation is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Approximately 2 percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Scout Project to benefit the community. For Andrew's Eagle Scout Project he provided 22 slab-topped benches for a pit area at Camp of Good Shepherd in Louisville, Nebraska. Andrew assisted in the milling of the slabs and coordinated the construction with members of several Webelos Scout packs. The work ethic Andrew has shown in his Eagle Scout Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes about his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Andrew and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.